

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 10349 311223Z

46

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 EUR-25 OMB-01 AID-20 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 SR-02 ORM-03

RSR-01 /164 W

----- 106959

R 311116Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4033

USUN NEW YORK 2452

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT CAIRO

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: N/A DECON 8/31/74

TAGS: PFOR, LE, SY, UN

SUBJECT: UNSYG'S VISIT TO SYRIA AND LEBANON

1. UNSYG WALDHEIM'S AUG. 27-29 VISIT TO SYRIA AND LEBANON WENT OFF SMOOTHLY BUT PRODUCED NO SURPRISES. SARG LEADERS, INCLUDING PRES. ASSAD, RECEIVED HIM CORDIALLY IN DAMASCUS, APPARENTLY WELCOMING OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLAIN SYRIA'S POLICIES OF NON-SUPPORT FOR SC RES 242 AND REFUSAL TO DEAL WITH AMB. JARRING. SOME LOCAL OBSERVERS SAW THIS AS SMALL REFLECTION OF NEW FLEXIBILITY ON SARG'S PART, ALTHOUGH WALDHEIM HIMSELF TOLD NEWSMEN UPON ARRIVAL AT BEIRUT THAT THERE WAS NO CHANGE IN SYRIAN STAND RE SC RES 242.

2. SYG'S 24-HOUR STAY IN LEBANON -- COORDINATED BY UNRWA CONGEN RENNIE -- FOLLOWED ACCORDING TO PRESS SAME GENERAL PATTERN, WITH A ROUND OF MEETINGS WITH PRES. FRANGIE
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PAGE 02 BEIRUT 10349 311223Z

AND HIS CHIEF MINISTERS WHO WERE EAGER TO IMPRESS ON

WALDHEIM GOL'S ATTACHMENT TO 1949 ARMISTICE AGRT.,
PALESTINIAN RIGHTS AND COMPLETE ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL
FROM OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. THROUGHOUT HIS VISIT WALDHEIM
REITERATED THAT PURPOSE OF HIS TRIP WAS TO GAIN GREATER
INSIGHT INTO ME PROBLEM, WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS MOST
DANGEROUS AND EXPLOSIVE ISSUE IN WORLD. ALTHOUGH PLO'S
HIGHER COMMITTEE FOR PALESTINIAN AFFAIRS IN LEBANON
(CLAP) DELIVERED MEMO TO SYG DESCRIBING /MISERIES OF
PALESTINE REFUGEES IN UN-ADMINISTERED CAMPS", WALDHEIM
MADE NO VISIT TO ANY CAMP AND TOLD REPORTERS ON LEAVING
THAT HE HAD NOT MET WITH ANY PALESTINIAN REPS IN LEBANON.

3. REACTION TO WALDHEIM'S VISIT ON PART OF LEBANESE AND
SYRIAN PUBLIC AND PRESS ALIKE HAS BEEN CAUTIOUS AND RE-
STRAINED, WITH GENERAL ATTITUDE BEING THAT NOT MUCH HAD
BEEN EXPECTED TO EMERGE FROM IT IN ANY EVENT. BUFFUM

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